

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Accompanying Continuation Application under
37 CFR 1.53(b):

Prior Application: APPLICANTS: N. MUNAKATA et al
 Serial No. 09/637,497
 Filed: August 11, 2000

Group Art: 2836
For: POWER USE CIRCUIT BREAKER AND ELECTRICAL CIRCUIT
 ARRANGEMENT FOR ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION PLANT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified
application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, before the first line, insert the following
paragraph:

This is a continuation application of U.S. Serial
No. 09/637,497, filed August 11, 2000.

Page 7, fifth full paragraph, lines 23-24, the marked up
paragraph is as follows:

The vacuum bulb 1 is provided with switching contacts
which open and close ~~is~~ in a vacuum.

Pages 21 and 22, the paragraph bridging page 21, line 8 through page 22, line 1, the marked up paragraph is as follows:

With regard to such timings of the current interrupting operation, the timing after opening the current conducting switching unit 3 until opening the arc generating switching unit 2 is set by the difference between the sliding stroke amount of the stationary contacts 3a and 3b and the movable contacts 3c and 3d of the current conducting switching unit 3 under their contacting state and the sliding stroke amount of the stationary side arc contact 2c and the movable side arc contact 2d of the arc generating switching unit 2 under their contacting state, and the timing after opening the arc generating switching unit 2 until opening the vacuum bulb 1 is set by the dead band stroke amount (the range through which an input can be varied without initiating a response, i.e., $t_1 + t_2$ in Fig. 2) in the operation mechanism after opening the arc generating switching unit 2 until the head portions 36a, 37a and 38a of the vacuum bulb drive rods 36, 37 and 38 couple with the coupling plate 20, ~~thereby.~~ Thus, the vacuum bulb 1, the arc generating switching unit 2 and the current conducting switching unit 3 are interlocked and their switching operation is performed by a single drive device 47.

Pages 22 and 23, the paragraph bridging page 22, line 16 through page 23, line 6, the marked up paragraph is as follows:

Fig. 7 is an electric circuit diagram representing an embodiment showing wirings of electrical machines and apparatus in an electric power generation plant where the power use circuit breaker according to the present invention is installed. An electric power generator 71 is connected through an electric power generation main circuit use circuit breaker 72 employing the power use circuit breaker according to the present invention, a main power transformer ~~72~~ 73, another circuit breaker 74 and a disconnecting switch 75 in this order to an electric power transmission line 76. A house power source is received from the electric power generation main circuit at between the electric power generation main circuit use circuit breaker 72 and the main power transformer 73 and is supplied through a house transformer 77 and still another circuit breaker 78 in this order to a house power distribution line 79.